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# Resources For Pre- and Post-Deployment

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## Operation Ready Families Program

Steve Read (916) 361-4955

[www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies)

(Provides links to most programs listed on this sheet)

- Provides a safety net to address any issues relating to soldiers, airmen, and their families.
- Promotes self reliance through a partnership in which family, community, and guard members participate.

## Family Assistance Network

Phillip Garcia (916) 361-4956

[www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies)

- Utilizes civilian, government, and military agencies to address family issues that arise from active duty service such as financial difficulties, child care, legal issues, personal responsibilities and the emotional impact on the family.

## Guard Family Action Plan

Teri Currier (916) 361-4959

[www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies)

- Allows guard members and their families to identify issues that affect people locally and throughout the California National Guard.
- Issues can be submitted through the Operations Ready Families Website.
- Issues are reviewed by a Steering Committee, directed to the appropriate agency, and followed up on until resolved.
- Results in legislation, policies, programs, and services that strengthen readiness and retention.

## California National Guard Family Readiness Handbook

June Sato (916) 361-4957

[www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies)

- One stop resource for soldiers, airmen, and their loved ones.
- Helps family members plan for deployment and create a resource network during deployment.

## MILITARY ONESOURCE 1-800-342-9647

[www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)

- Trained, licensed, Master's level consultants answer the phones 24/7/365 to provide information and referral service
- Services referrals for short-term solution-focused, face-to-face counseling at no cost to the guardsmen. Open to family members

## Marriage Enrichment Seminars

Chaplain MAJ Steve Harrell (562) 572-4791

Sergeant Desmond Knight (916) 854-3398

[www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies)

- Offered through the Operations Ready Families Program in conjunction with MAJ Steve Harrell.
- Teaches couples how to communicate effectively and work as a team, cope with separation, and promote successful reunification.
- Army and Air Guard participating spouses will be placed on Invitational Travel Orders (ITOs).

## Benevolence Opportunities

Teri Currier (916) 361-4959

[www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies)

- Donated items such as food, clothing, toys, calling cards, etc., for military families in need.
- Special opportunities such as free admission to amusement parks and fishing trips

## California Military Family Relief Fund (CMFRF)

Jon Wilson (916) 854-3409

[www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf)

- Assists deployed members experiencing financial difficulties due to active duty service.
- Provides immediate financial assistance through a one time grant.
- Accepts donations via a selection on State tax forms and individual donations.

## Sergeant Major Association Chaplain's Fund

[www.smaofcalifornia.org](http://www.smaofcalifornia.org)

- Provides immediate financial assistance for guard members through grants and no interest loans.
- Non profit veteran's organizations funded through donations.

## National Guard Association of California

[www.ngac.org/](http://www.ngac.org/)

- Charitable non profit corporation dedicated to the interests of the California National Guard.
- Supports guard members through legislative actions, professional development activities, and social functions.

**Staff Judge Advocate**

(916) 854-3505

[www.calguard.ca.gov/SJA](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/SJA)

- Advises Soldiers and Airmen on legal concerns and drafts will, powers of attorney, and other important legal documents.
- Participates in Solider Readiness Processing (SRP) to help individuals who are deploying understand their legal rights.

**Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve**

(COL Ret) Jerry Jurin (916) 854-3106

[www.esgr.org](http://www.esgr.org)

- Provides protection of civilian employment for members returning from military duty
- Acts as the liaison between guardsmen and their employers (Ombudsmen Services).
- Guardsmen can reward their employers by submitting them for a "Patriot Award" through the ESGR website.

**The Service Members Civil Relief Act**

916 854 -3505

[www.calguard.ca.gov/SJA](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/SJA)

- New legislation to help ease the economic and legal burden on military personnel called to active duty status.
- In certain circumstances, allows service members to break leases and other specified financial obligations.

**California National Guard Surviving Spouses and Children's Relief Act**

Jon Wilson (916) 854-3409

[www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf)

- Provide for a \$10,000 death benefit to the designated beneficiary of the California National Guard member who dies in a duty status.

**Helmets to hardhats**

(COL Ret) Jerry Jurin (916) 854-3106

- Connects guardsmen with paid apprenticeships in the construction industry.
- Education funding available in many cases.

**Troops to Teachers**

Thelma Leenhouts (202) 260-0223

- Recruits, prepares, and supports former members of the military as teachers in high poverty areas.
- Stipends available for eligible to assist with certification and licensing.

**Hire a Veteran**

1-877-872-5627

<http://www.hirevetsfirst.gov/hirenow.asp>

- Veterans employment specialist available to help veterans find jobs, acquire skills and education, plan their career, attend workshops, and take advantage of other resources. Located nationwide.

**Military Spouse Job Search**

1-877-872-5627

[www.militaryspousejobsearch.org](http://www.militaryspousejobsearch.org)

- Employers committed to hiring military spouses. Complete career building.

**California National Guard Combat Stress Control (CSC) Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)**

Jon Wilson (916) 854-3409

[www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf)

- Pre-mobilization counseling available.
- Counseling available during mobilization
- Post mobilization combat stress briefings and health assessments.

**Peer to Peer Support Program**

Jon Wilson (916) 854-3409

[www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf)

- Training that creates tangible peer support though times of personal or professional crises and to help anticipate and address potential difficulties.

**State Psychologist/Social Worker**

MAJ Philip Holcombe, State Psych (916)-854-3019

MAJ Eric Frye, Social Worker (916) 854-3019

[www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies)

- Provides community resources and referral for a Varsity of emotional issues to include substance abuse, martial issues, domestic violence, and child abuse /neglect.
- Command consultations & mental health testing for military needs.

**California National Guard State Chaplain**

Chaplain Robert Johnson (916) 854-3398

[www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies)

- Provides and performs religious support to the Soldiers and Airmen of the California National Guard and their families.
- Helps Soldiers and Airmen establish a support network to cope with physical, emotional, family and work pressures.

**Veteran's Assistant Group**

Michael O'Brien (916) 854-3398

[www.calguard.ca.gov/veteransprogram](http://www.calguard.ca.gov/veteransprogram)

- Provides current information on veteran's benefits and how to obtain assistance
- Guard members should identify medical issues and register with the VA as free medical services are available in some cases

**TRICARE**

[www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil)

1-800-342-9647

- Provides medical coverage for mobilization soldiers and family members

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